



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

September 26, 2013

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To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
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Supervisor Don Knabe
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From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE'S RECOMMENDATION TO FUND ONE CRIMINALIST POSITION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER – CORONER (ITEM NO. 5-E, AGENDA OF JUNE 24, 2013)

On June 24, 2013, the Board requested that the Chief Executive Office (CEO) report back on how to allocate \$120,000 from the Provisional Finance Uses (PFU) account to the Department of Medical Examiner – Coroner (Department) to fund one criminalist position on an ongoing basis.

As part of Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 Recommended Budget, the Department requested four positions for its Forensic Laboratories Division to alleviate a high caseload to staff ratio in its toxicology testing section. Based upon recently provided caseload information and pursuant to the Boards' direction, the CEO supports the Department's request for one Senior Criminalist position and has included it in the FY 2013-14 Supplemental Budget.

The CEO further recommends that the criminalist position be funded with net County cost. By doing so, the new Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner (CMEC) will be able to utilize the full amount of \$500,000 in funding in PFU to address other critical ongoing needs within the Department. The CMEC is currently assessing the Department's operations and will submit funding recommendations to this Office upon completion of his review.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Georgia Mattera at (213) 893-2374 or at gmattera@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:GAM:SW
MI:cc/llm

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Medical Examiner-Coroner

MEC.PFU.Budget.bm.092613.docx